

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LOS ANGELES REGION**

**320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, California 90013
(213) 576-6600**

**Public Notice No. 14-044
NPDES No. CA0001147**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**PROPOSED REISSUANCE
OF
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
(National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit)**

DISCHARGER	DISCHARGE LOCATION	RECEIVING WATER
El Segundo Power, LLC (El Segundo Generating Station) (CA0001147)	301 Vista del Mar, El Segundo, CA 90245	Pacific Ocean

El Segundo Power, LLC (hereinafter, Discharger) discharges up to 496 million gallons per day (MGD) of once-through cooling water, storm water, and low volume wastewaters from the El Segundo Generating Station (hereinafter, Facility) to the Pacific Ocean, a water of the United States. The discharge is regulated under waste discharge requirements contained in Order No. 00-084, adopted by this Regional Board on June 29, 2000. Existing Order No. 00-084 also serves as a permit under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES No. CA0001147) Program.

El Segundo Power, LLC is the owner and operator of the El Segundo Generating Station, a steam electric generating facility, located at 301 Vista del Mar, El Segundo, California. The Facility formerly had four natural gas fired steam electric generating units (Units 1 through 4). The Discharger has replaced Units 1 and 2 with two trains of fast start, highly efficient combined cycle generation, referred to as rapid response combined cycle, or "R2C2" (Units 5, 6, 7 and 8). Construction of Units 5, 6, 7, and 8 was completed by March 2013 with a commercial operation date of August 1, 2013. The repowered units have a total capacity of 560 MW and utilize air cooled condensers that do not use cooling water from the ocean. Units 3 and 4 are each rated at 335 MW. The Discharger retired Unit 3 on July 22, 2013. Currently, Unit 4 is the only remaining unit that uses once-through cooling water. The total design offshore cooling water flow for Unit 4 is 199.3 million gallons per day (MGD).

The once-through cooling water system employed in Unit 4 withdraws water from Santa Monica Bay through a submerged offshore intake system equipped with a velocity cap. The velocity cap inlet has recently been modified to comply with the requirements in the *Statewide Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling* (OTC Policy).

To control biological growths, condenser tubes are treated intermittently by mechanically injecting chlorine in the form of sodium hypochlorite for a maximum of 2 hours per day into the cooling water stream. Marine fouling of the intake and discharge cooling water conduits is controlled by heat treatment via temporarily recirculating, thus increasing the temperature in the once-through cooling water, and reversing the direction of flow through the offshore conduit.

The Facility generates a number of low volume wastes which are routed to a retention basin for storage and treatment prior to discharge to the Pacific Ocean through Discharge Point 002. A maximum of 0.15 MGD is discharged from the retention basins. The low volume wastes consist of wastewaters generated intermittently from floor drains, laboratory drains, boiler blowdown, reverse osmosis reject, Units 5-8 raw water tank overflow, and hydrostatic test water.

Storm water from the Facility is also discharged through Discharge Point 002. Storm water from Units 3 and 4 areas receives treatment in an oil/water separator prior to commingling with the once-through cooling water.

Currently, all discharges of chemical and non-chemical metal cleaning wastes to the receiving water have ceased. Instead, all metal cleaning wastes are collected and trucked off-site to a wastewater treatment plant for off-site treatment and disposal. The sanitary wastes are discharged to the local sewer system. Therefore, metal cleaning wastes and sanitary wastes are no longer permitted to be discharged from the Facility.

This Order authorizes the discharge of up to 200.08 mgd of once-through cooling water and in-plant wastewaters including low volume wastes, storm waters and fire hydrant test water, into the Pacific Ocean, a water of the United States through Discharge Point 002. Discharge Point 002 consists of a surge tank and one 12-foot-diameter conduit pipe, which terminates approximately 2,100 feet offshore at a depth of 20 feet below mean lower low water (MLLW). The coordinates for the discharge terminus are 33.9075° N, -118.4306° W.

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, tentatively proposes to issue waste discharge requirements, including effluent limitations and special conditions.

HEARING DATE AND LOCATION

Date: February 12, 2015
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board Room
700 North Alameda Street
Los Angeles, California

Please be aware that dates and venues may change. Our Web address is <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles> where you can access the current agenda for changes in dates and locations.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Report of Waste Discharge, related documents, tentative requirements, comments received, and other information received on the discharge are available for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the following address:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Arrangements for file review and/or obtaining copies of the documents may be made by calling the Los Angeles Regional Board at (213) 576-6600. The entire file will become a part of the administrative record of this proceeding, irrespective of whether individual documents are

specifically referenced during the hearing. The entire file will not be present in the hearing room. Should any interested persons desire staff to bring to the hearing any particular documents that are not included in the agenda packet, they must submit a written or electronic request to staff during business hours, not later than 5 business days before the hearing. The request must identify the documents with enough specificity for staff to locate them.

NATURE OF HEARING

This will be a formal adjudicative hearing pursuant to section 648 et seq. of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Chapter 5 of the California Administrative Procedure Act (commencing with section 11500 of the Government Code) will not apply to this proceeding.

Ex Parte Communications Prohibited: As a quasi-adjudicative proceeding, no board member may discuss the subject of this hearing with any person, except during the public hearing itself. Any communications to the Regional Board must be directed to staff.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH STAFF BEFORE THE HEARING

The lead staff member responsible for this item is:

Jau Ren Chen
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013
Tel (213) 576-6656 Fax (213) 576-6660
JauRen.Chen@waterboards.ca.gov

PARTIES TO THE HEARING

The following are the parties to this proceeding:

1. El Segundo Power, LLC

Any other persons requesting party status must submit a written or electronic request to staff not later than 20 business days before the hearing. All parties will be notified if other persons are so designated.

Regional Water Board staff is not a party to the proceeding; their participation in this proceeding exists for the purpose of advising and assisting the Regional Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUBMITTAL OF EVIDENCE

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the tentative waste discharge requirements, or submit evidence for the Board to consider, are invited to submit them in writing to losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov with a copy to JauRen.Chen@waterboards.ca.gov. To be evaluated and responded to by staff, included in the Board's agenda folder, and fully considered by the Board, written comments must be received no later than close of business **January 19, 2015**. Additionally, if the Board receives only supportive comments, the permit may be placed on the Board's consent calendar, and approved without an oral testimony.

HEARING PROCEDURE

The meeting, in which the hearing will be a part of, will start at 9:00 a.m. Interested persons are invited to attend. Staff will present the matter under consideration, after which oral statements from parties or interested persons will be heard. For accuracy of the record, all important testimony should be in writing. The Board will include in the administrative record written

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transcriptions of oral testimony that is actually presented at the hearing. Oral testimony may be limited to three (3) minutes or less for each interested person, depending on the number of persons wishing to be heard. Parties or persons with similar concerns or opinions are encouraged to choose one representative to speak. At the conclusion of testimony, the Board will deliberate in open or close session, and render a decision.

Parties or persons with special procedural requests should contact staff. Any procedure not specified in this hearing notice will be waived pursuant to section 648(d) of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Objections to any procedure to be used during this hearing must be submitted in writing not later than close of business 15 business days prior to the date of the hearing. Procedural objections will not be entertained at the hearing.

If there should not be a quorum on the scheduled date of this meeting, all cases will be automatically continued to the next scheduled meeting on March 12, 2015. A continuance will not extend any time set forth herein.

Date: December 16, 2014